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Washington Whispers

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White House officials deny that John deButts, retiring chairman of American Telephone & Telegraph, is being groomed to become chief of the CIA. Then why was a FBI security check made on him? The answer: DeButts is due to be named to a presidential study commission.

Though U.S. intelligence sources have established that the Soviet Union has delivered a small number of MiG-23 jets with nuclear-bomb capability to Cuba, Carter has told the Kremlin he will not demand their removal—but would construe introduction of any more such aircraft as a clear violation of the 1962 Cuban missile agreement.